

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are currently pending in the application; Claims 1-3 having been amended in a non-narrowing manner, and new Claims 4-6 having been added, by way of the present response. Applicants respectfully assert that support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and that therefore no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,566,142 to Nakano et al. (Nakano). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano in view of Applicants' Prior Art Figures 6A and 6B. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims be withdrawn for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to a high-frequency superposition module for an optical pickup (e.g., as recited in independent Claim 1), as well as the optical pickup including the high-frequency superposition module (e.g., as recited in independent Claim 3). Independent Claims 1 and 3 recite that the module has an oscillating circuit for feeding high frequency current to a laser diode, which includes at least an active element and passive elements. The claims further recite a power supply for feeding direct current to the laser diode which is also used as a power supply for the oscillating circuit.

Nakano is directed to an apparatus using an optical pickup. As shown in Figure 3, for example, of Nakano, a high-frequency wave superimposition circuit includes a capacitor 12 and an oscillating source 13. The capacitor 12 is provided to isolate the oscillating source 13 from a direct current.¹

¹ From Column 6, line 66 to Column 7, line 11.

Applicants respectfully assert that Nakano does not teach or render obvious, however, the claimed features of a direct current power supply for the oscillating circuit, as recited in independent Claims 1 and 3. Rather, as discussed above, Nakano states that the capacitor 12 is used to isolate the oscillating source 13 from direct current.

Specifically, independent Claims 1 and 3 recite “a power supply for feeding said direct current to the laser diode which is also used as a power supply for said oscillating circuit.” Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn, and the allowance of independent Claims 1 and 3.

Applicants respectfully assert that Claim 2 is allowable for the same reasons as independent Claim 1 from which it depends, as well as for its own features. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn, and the allowance of dependent Claim 2.

Applicants respectfully assert that new Claims 4-6 are allowable for reasons similar to those of Claims 1-3. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of new Claims 4-6.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-6 is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/078,371
Reply to Office Action of August 9, 2004

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Attorney of Record

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340

Customer Number
22850
Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

GJM/PH/me

I:\ATTY\PH\21s\219783\PRP AM 11012004.DOC